

Enrichment

The Sayings of Confucius

Directions: Read these sayings of Confucius. Then complete the activities that follow.

Some Sayings of Confucius

If you make a mistake and do not correct it, this is called a mistake.

When you see wise people, think of becoming equal to them. When you see unwise people, reflect inwardly on yourself.

To eat your fill but not apply your mind to anything all day is a problem. Are there no games to play? Even that would be smarter than doing nothing.

Cultivated people are ashamed to say more than they can do.

Excerpt from *The Essential Confucius*, translated by Thomas Cleary. Copyright ©1992 by Thomas Cleary. Reprinted by permission of HarperCollins Publishers, Inc.

1. On the back of this page or on another sheet of paper, rewrite each saying of Confucius in your own words.
2. Which saying is similar to the popular saying “Actions speak louder than words”?

3. Based on these sayings, use your own words to describe a person Confucius would consider wise, or cultivated.
